

Attorney Docket No.: ZIP-007
Application Serial No.: 10/600,939
Reply to Office Action of: June 27, 2005

REMARKS

Claims 1-66 were pending in the present application prior to entry of the present amendment. Claims 1, 25, 41, 43, 47-50, 55, 58-61, and 62 are amended above. Claims 4, 46, 51-54, 57, 63, and 64 are canceled above. New claims 67-90 are added above. No new matter is added by the claim amendments or new claims. Entry is respectfully requested.

Claims 12, 13, 18, 21, 29, 40, 44, 54 and 66 are withdrawn from consideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.142(b) as being drawn to a non-elected species. Applicant reserves the right to have these claims reconsidered, pending the allowance of a generic claim.

The applicant notes, with appreciation, that the Office Action indicates at page 5, paragraphs 2 and 3, that claims 6-10, 34-38, 41, 47-50 and 58-61 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form and that claim 65 is allowed. Accordingly, new independent claim 67 includes the limitations of allowed dependent claim 6, and new dependent claims 68-71 respectively include the limitations of allowed claims 7-10. New independent claim 72 includes the limitations of allowed dependent claim 34, and new dependent claims 73-76 respectively include the limitations of allowed claims 35-38. Claims 47-50 and 58-61 are amended above to be re-cast in independent form. Entry and allowance of the new claims and allowance of the re-cast claims are respectfully requested.

Claim 43 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claim 43 is amended above to depend from claim 30. Reconsideration and removal of the rejection of claim 43 are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3, 5, 11, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22-25, 28, 30, 31, 33, 39, 43, 45, 46, 53, 55-57, and 62-64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Walker (US Patent No. 5,715,620). Claims 1-4, 14-16, 19, 20, 22, 24-27, 30-32, 43, 45, 51, 52, 55, 63, and 64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lassiter (US Patent No. 6,523,231). Reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

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With regard to the rejection of independent claims 1 and 25 as being anticipated by Walker, it is submitted that Walker fails to teach or suggest "the pole interface comprising a non-skid material", as claimed in amended claims 1 and 25. Walker's alleged pole interface, namely shoulder surface 52, does not include a non-skid surface. In addition, it is submitted that Walker fails to teach or suggest "the head interface spaced apart from the pole interface" in a manner such that, when the partition mount is suspended in position between a pole and an abutting surface, "the pole interface is the only portion of the partition mount in direct contact with the pole", as claimed in amended claims 1 and 25. Instead, Walker's alleged head interface, namely stopping tab 54 and resilient attachment arm 44, are always in direct contact with the Walker handle 22 (alleged as a "pole") when the handle 22 is in contact with the Walker shoulder surface 52. Accordingly, reconsideration and removal of the rejection of claims 1 and 25 as being anticipated by Walker are respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of independent claim 55 as being anticipated by Walker, it is submitted that Walker fails to teach or suggest a "wall interface" that is "on an external, outer surface of the mount body", as claimed in amended claim 55. Instead, the alleged Walker "wall interface", namely, the square-shaped opening formed between the first jaw 30 and second jaw 32, including indentations 36, is an internal, inner surface of the Walker bracket. Accordingly, reconsideration and removal of the rejection of claim 55 as being anticipated by Walker are respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of independent claim 62 as being anticipated by Walker, it is submitted that Walker fails to teach or suggest a "mount body" comprising first and second arms "having a thickness in a transverse direction", and having an elongated head integral with and coupled to the second arm, and "extending in the transverse direction" relative to the mount body "over a length that is greater than the thickness" of the mount body, as claimed in amended claim 62. Instead, the alleged Walker "head", namely resilient attachment arm 44, is of the same thickness as the first and second arms of the Walker bracket. Accordingly, reconsideration and

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removal of the rejection of claim 62 as being anticipated by Walker are respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of independent claims 1 and 25 as being anticipated by Lassiter, it is submitted that Lassiter fails to teach or suggest "the pole interface comprising a non-skid material", as claimed in amended claims 1 and 25. Lassiter's alleged pole interface, namely the surface of the opening in closed sleeve 34, does not include a non-skid material. Instead, the Lassiter rib 15, is formed of the same rigid material as that of the of the body, so as to make a permanent indentation in the extension cord. In addition, it is submitted that Lassiter fails to teach or suggest a head interface that comprises "a retaining mechanism adapted for coupling a head to the partition mount". Instead, the alleged Lassiter head interface, namely arm 16, has no such retaining mechanism. Accordingly, reconsideration and removal of the rejection of claims 1 and 25 as being anticipated by Lassiter are respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of independent claim 55 as being anticipated by Lassiter, it is submitted that Lassiter fails to teach or suggest a "wall interface" that is "on an external, outer surface of the mount body", as claimed in amended claim 55. Instead, the alleged Lassiter "wall interface", namely, namely rib 15, is located at an internal, inner surface of the Lassiter power cord clip. Accordingly, reconsideration and removal of the rejection of claim 55 as being anticipated by Lassiter are respectfully requested.

With regard to the rejection of dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 11, 14, 17, 19, 20, 22-24, 28, 30, 31, 33, 39, 43, 45 and 56, as being anticipated by Walker, it is submitted that these claims should inherit the allowability of the independent claims from which they depend. With regard to the rejection of dependent claims 2-4, 14-16, 19, 20, 22, 24, 26, 27, 30-32, 43, 45, 52, and 64, as being anticipated by Walker, it is submitted that these claims should inherit the allowability of the independent claims from which they depend.

With regard to newly added claims 78-84, it is submitted that none of the cited references, whether alone or in combination, teaches or suggests the listed combination of limitations. In

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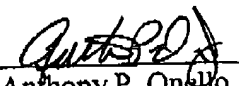
particular, none of the references teaches or suggests a "mount body" comprising first and second arms "having a thickness in a transverse direction", and having an elongated head integral with and coupled to the second arm, and "extending in the transverse direction" relative to the mount body "over a length that is greater than the thickness" of the mount body, as claimed. Accordingly, entry and allowance of claims 78-84 are respectfully requested. In addition, newly added claims 85-90 depend from claim 62, which, as stated above, is in condition for allowance. Entry and allowance of claims 85-90 are respectfully requested.

Closing Remarks

It is submitted that, with entry of the above claim amendments, all claims are in condition for allowance, and such allowance is respectfully requested. If prosecution of the application can be expedited by a telephone conference, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the number given below.

Respectfully submitted,

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